

Adult Education in the University of Glasgow under threat?

At a meeting on February the 16th, the Senior Management Group of the university will ask Court, the University's decision-making body, to investigate whether adult education should continue to have a place in the University. As staff responsible for delivering the University's extensive adult education programme (under the banner of DACE, the former Department of Adult and Continuing Education), we see this proposal as a real threat to the continuing existence of the programme.

We believe that:

- The Senior Management Group is making decisions based on a lack of information. It may be the view of some that adult education is being dismissed as no more than 'leisure classes'.
- It has always been part of the University's mission to engage with the community around Glasgow. To stop supporting adult education would be to 'dis'-engage from the community.
- The adult education programme currently engages around 5000 students in a wide range of courses. It is one of the best ways in which the University gives something back to the local community which supports it. How can a University contemplate terminating such a worthy programme of lifelong learning and see this as a positive step forward?

If you feel that the adult education programme has been of any benefit to you we would ask you to:

1. Write to the Principal of the University and the Head of the College of Social Sciences asking them to withdraw any investigation or 'consultation' into the continuing relevance of adult education. It needs to arrive by the 15th of February. See contact details below.
2. In your letter, briefly explain how adult education has benefited you.

We hope you feel that the provision of a varied and high-quality programme of adult education should be self-evidently supported by a University and that you will be moved to defend its continuing existence in the University of Glasgow. Thank you very much.

Written by university staff working on the adult education open programme.

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